



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. FJN-070

(3999/73)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANT: Yamaguchi, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/202,455

GROUP NO.: 1646

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FILING DATE (U.S.) December 15, 1998

EXAMINER: Fozia Hamud

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

TITLE: NOVEL PROTEIN AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE PROTEIN

BOX AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group No. 3761

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION, MADE FINAL

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action, made final, mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 19, 2001. Petition for a one-month extension of time up to and including Friday, October 19, 2001 is hereby requested. The appropriate fee of \$110.00 is enclosed herewith. Please charge any other necessary fees to Deposit Account Number 20-0531.

Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks.

AMENDMENT

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 65-67, 72-79, 81, and 89 (as renumbered). Please amend claims 69, 80, 82, 84, 85 and 88 (as renumbered) as follows.

69. (Twice Amended) A purified and isolated Osteoclastogenesis Inhibitory Factor (OCIF) binding protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 16, and SEQ ID NO: 17, wherein said OCIF-binding protein promotes osteoclast differentiation and maturation.